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Theories of writing

## Writing and technology effect memory negatively

I believe that writing and technology negatively impacts people's memory. To be able to support my theory I will be referring back to the theorist Socrates and with blog post from classmates plus a little outside research I've done for other classes. The main question I will be trying to answer and talking basically all about. Firs off how does writing and technology impact someone's memory? The second question I will be incorporating into my writing to help support my theories is how memory effects our everyday life or everyday life of a college student? I'll be answering these questions and trying to support my theory by using all of our in-class discussions, readings we had and some outside research projects.

To get into the mindset of seeing how technology and writing can be bad for one memory let me give a two-common example. As college students we spend endless time writing notes, but it always seems to leave your mind as soon as the test come around which shows the aspect of how writing doesn't help memory. Now a situation for technology and how its bad for our memory like when someone asks a pretty simple and the first thing you do is hip out your phone and to use google to find the answer without even testing your memory. The

first point I would like to bring up is the irony of this writing. Socrates main argument is how writing weakened the necessity of the power of memory, but this is all written down by one of his students Plato and makes it into a writing which is funny since Plato's writing about what he's hearing about how writing is bad for memory. There are two things that I would like to take away from this is that first off it is not written like an essay/ article it is written in a dialogue since his student was the one to write down everything, this leaves you understanding how serious Socrates was on his theory since he didn't even publish his work because nothing was written down. I believe that since this is written from a student proves his point to the reader. The second thing I would like to mention from the reading is how most people that have read this are not reading this one time and understanding this all, so you are almost forced to go back and read it again to really get the idea of the writing but maybe if there was a face-to-face interaction you remember and be able to take more away from it than you did when you read what was written. Which would also prove his point to the reader. Face to face interactions is something that you benefit as much as you put into it which is not the same for writing. When you are face to face there is are things that help give indications of understanding and if you want to participate more it allows you brain to make better connections/ associations with other things when face to face.

Now from our Phaedrus reading we all did blog posts on it but there was one that I really enjoyed. The main point that I felt really would be useful to support my theory was from a "Luke Broccolo's "blog post where he breaks down a part of Socrates' writing. The blog post says, "Plato's critique about writing being used to appeal to readers, as opposed to the true thoughts of the writer to be an accurate observation, and an observation that is relevant to

today's world." This supports my theory especially the technology aspect of my theory. Writing causes bad memory because writing is not always factual, but neither is face-to face but luckily for face-to-face interactions people have many tells to show when they're lying, and people are known to be bad liars because it is an unsettling feeling when done. But onto the topic of technology such as google or any other sight to find information on things, we have sights like Wikipedia where anyone can write down any information without being certified to give that answer or definition. But unlike face-to-face writing has no real definite tell if something is false. You can go out of your way to use other websites to fact check what you are reading but that is much more difficult than talking with someone who has lots of tells. The main point is Not being able to trust what you read online will affect your memory because of second guessing what you see. If you constantly second guess something eventually you will move on from it and forget about it since it has no reason for use to the reader if it is untrustworthy. Overall, for someone experienced in finding reliable sights it may be easy but for the people who are in a rush to get a quick answer or a brief summary on a topic have no time to check for a reliable source.

My last point to help supports my theory on memory being affected by writing and technology is from an outside reading for a class I had last year for a speech class on how we practice speeches and remember our own material. This site is all about how technology does not help with our memory when it comes to speeches. In my research for this class, I found that while practicing speeches writing it down is only a small fraction of what is needed to successfully prepare for a speech. The main thing was how important saying each line and reciting the whole speech from start to finish is the best way to remember your speech.

Repetition is key. Your brain works as if things are coded and if you are using the same functions over and over eventually your brain recognizes it and can help you piece together what is next in your speech. In my outside of class research, it says "Practice, practice, practice is the best way to solidify data you need to keep in your memory and retrieve when needed." Which sums up everything I mentioned above.

This class research helped support my theory by showing people that writing only helps get the words in lined but has nothing really to do with memory of the speech especially when you are in a high stress situation such as giving a speech or taking a test. Overall writing and technology negatively effects your memory by relying on it for things and not being able to trust it because it is harder to fact check than when your having a face to face interaction.

## Citations

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